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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

DECREE COMPULSORY EDUCATION.
PUSH RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE STUDY

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUES DECREE ON GENERAL SCHOOLS -- Budapest, Szabad Nep,
 29 May 51

The Council of Ministers has issued a decree concerning compulsory school education and general schools. The preamble of the decree states that the constitution assures the right of the workers to education in a free and compulsory general school system and to financial support in case of need.

Each child must, after his sixth birthday, attend the general school for 8 years. Instruction is free, and needy children may be awarded scholarships.

It is the parents' duty to send their children to school regularly. The parents are held responsible for their children's absence from school. At the first unexcused absence, the school principal warns the parents. If the pupil is absent repeatedly during the same year, the executive committee of the local council imposes a fine on the parents.

The organization and maintenance of the general school are the task of the state. The general school functions under the supervision of the Minister of Public Education and the local council. The language of instruction is Hungarian. Instruction may be conducted in a minority language in communities where at least 15 parents belonging to that minority so desire. For these pupils study of Hungarian language and literature is compulsory.

Successful completion of general school qualifies the pupil to attend any type of high school.

STUDY RUSSIAN LANGUAGE -- Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 17 May 51

The workers of Hungary are showing great interest in the study of the Russian language. The Russian Library in Budapest has organized 432 groups for the study of Russian; there are 8,640 students. Included in these courses are conversation groups, translation groups, teachers' groups, and others.

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Courses have also been organized in Szeged, Gyor, Debrecen, and other large cities of the country. The House of Soviet Books regularly distributes books and offers lectures in Russian on Soviet culture and literature. Musical and choral groups present Soviet and Russian popular songs in the Russian language.

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